

# off the POINT

A weekly publication for Gallaudet University staff and faculty

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Louie "The Enforcer" Marksman reminds Gallaudet alumni donors about their pledges.

## Four new regional centers-on-wheels to hit joggers, pedestrians, motorists

Four new regional centers—all mobile—will join the nationwide network serving Gallaudet constituents, according to Dr. Razz Rosebush, dean of the College of Perpetual Learning.

The new centers will be located at four strategic spots in the Washington metropolitan area. One center will operate from a car on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway between Laurel and the New York Avenue approach to the District of Columbia. A second will operate from a station wagon on Route 50 between Bowie and the same approach to D.C. A third will be housed in a pickup truck on Route 5 between Waldorf and Pennsylvania Avenue SE, and the fourth will be in a car pool van from the southern part of Route 395 on the

GW Memorial Parkway to 6th Street SE.

These mobile centers will serve joggers, pedestrians and idling motorists. The centers' directors will communicate with constituents by bullhorns and CB radios. Each center will be equipped with a TDD and portable telephone with direct access to the campus VAX system and to moving and parked vehicles operated by members of the Centrifugal Administration.

The new centers were approved by the Gallaudet Board of Slurpees after frequent snows prevented normal operations on campus. Members of the Board congratulated the administration for suggesting "this ingenious method for increasing productivity that will offset the loss of valuable work hours."

## Deaf consumers rank hearing devices according to importance in daily life

A recent Gallaudet survey of 3,000,000 deaf people has revealed some startling opinions about the ongoing design of new devices aimed at improving hearing.

The survey asked the deaf consumers to rank various devices in order of the real or potential importance to their lives. More than 50 percent of the respondents ranked items such as TV decanters and Haagen Dazs ice cream as "much more important" than hearing devices that would significantly improve perception of speech.

According to Silly O'Ravioli of Gallaudet Really, Really Reliable Research Institute, "One respondent said, and I quote, 'Sure, hearing aids and cochlear

power plants will likely improve hearing impaired people's hearing, but why do you hearing people always assume we hearing impaired people want to know what you're saying?'"

The majority of respondents explained that effective hearing devices would probably be 1) "too expensive," and 2) "a hindrance to our present ability to enjoy three or more televised football games at the same time."

The survey results indicate, therefore, said O'Ravioli, "that for hearing technology to be valued by the mass of deaf consumers, it must be 1) cheap and 2) ineffectual at overcoming deafness."

## University plans special convocation to mark resumption of college status

Gallaudet's Board of Slurpees, after a series of discussions with members of the Centrifugal Administration, faculty, staff and student body, has decided that the demands of university status are just too gosh-darn hard and that, therefore, Gallaudet will go back to being a college.

"It is a great relief," said President Golly C. Gee in announcing the board's decision. "Criminy, being a university has been rough. I'm so tired of standing up straight and sucking my gut in!"

On April 24, exactly six months after the special convocation that created Gallaudet University, there will be another special convocation to mark Gallaudet's return to college status. The convocation speaker will be Irangate superstar Oliver North. A reception will follow in the Ely Center multipurpose room, featuring Velveeta slices, saltines and cheese doodles.

A week-long series of events will celebrate the relaxing of tension that has burdened the campus community since October. Activities will include

lectures by Beltsville photographer Manny Slotsbisc, paramedic Ron Noyes and cab company dispatcher Lucy Underwood; special sales of university-labeled items at the Bookstore; and several alcoholic affairs at "Ole Jim."

In preparation for the week's events, the entire south end of the campus will again be fenced off to remove the landscaping and replace the parking areas behind Fowler Hall and Chapel Hall. Furniture and carpeting in the Ely Center Atrium will be returned to their original state; the snack bar area will remain the same as it has right along.

Letters are being sent to alumni to request that diplomas issued in October from Gallaudet University be returned. New diplomas with the old name will be dispensed.

While plans have been underway for the return-to-college celebration, a small group of subversives has been working quietly and unsuccessfully behind the scenes to petition Congress to elevate Gallaudet to statehood.



Diamond and the bison get it on in front of the Field House.

## Metal mascots, Diamond and bison, drawn together by animal magnetism

Gallaudet's little iron dog, Diamond, escaped last week from the Gallaudet Museum and made a beeline to the big steel bison in front of the Field House.

Witnesses said that the two exchanged the usual exploratory greetings. Diamond, long the University's most famous animal, was extremely excited to be nose to nose with a fellow metal beast.

Diamond put up a ferocious struggle

when he was recaptured by museum personnel and returned to his pedestal. The bison also appeared distraught.

University administrators, concerned that the two may try to \_\_\_\_\_, have placed extra security around the two animals. "Such heavy metal action could be dangerous," said museum director Save De Credenza. The two animals have responded by refusing to eat.



## Announcements

The Gallaudet Workout has been cancelled indefinitely because too many people called in fat.

Anyone wanting to purchase books from the University Bookstore should call x9112 one week in advance for an appointment.

The Office of Alumni Relics and Mementos is selling maps that show the locations of all the buried rats on campus, plus the locations of all rats not yet buried. To get a copy, call x9993.

Several new courses being offered under Gallaudet's new School of Management Program include "Power Drinking," "Getting the Key to the Executive Washroom" and "Subtle Sucking-Up Techniques."

The Centrifugal Administration recently announced the real reason behind the cancellation of "Happy Hour" in "Ole Jim" some time ago. "Everyone is happy enough," said a spokesperson. "Look at the results of the recent union vote."

## Corrections

Please ignore earlier reports that Lynne Blennerhassett cannot spell her name.

A.G. Bell did not say "dead people need speech training."

A reference to the "B.M. Office" should have said the "Budget Management Office."

PACE does not stand for Parents Against Crayon Eating.

## off the POINT

Published each April Fool's Day for the drones, drudges, charlatans, gold-brickers and four-flushers of Gallaudet University by the Department of Publications and Production.

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Gallaudet University is not responsible for purses or other items left unattended, does not provide hot showers for employees, and will not tolerate tobacco spitting, scratching or gossiping among its faculty and staff. Rumors to the contrary are dirty lies and should be reported to the Centrifugal Administration immediately.



Gallaudet's new weather prediction person, Madame Folly Crass, uses the time-honored crystal ball method to foresee the next day's weather. Her other techniques: Licking a finger and holding it to the wind, studying chicken entrails, holding seances, and consulting a Ouija board.

## Faculty to use Presidential Award to embark on draining study of waste

President Golly C. Gee announced last week that a new Presidential Award has been presented to two faculty members in the Department of Disposal Design for a proposal entitled "Rotational and Gravitational Influences on the Disposal Behavior of Fluid Wastes."

William C. Handle and Ludwig von Trappe, both associate professors, will go to the equator to test the well-known scientific observation that in the northern hemisphere fluid wastes swirl in a counterclockwise direction as they drain, and in the southern hemisphere they swirl in a clockwise fashion.

The two Gallaudet scientists will use a repeated sampling approach in their study, crossing the equator several different times and at several different places. Much of the Presidential Award will be used for the three-month rental

of a yacht, which will sail from San Diego to Maui in the Hawaiian islands. From Maui they will proceed in a south-westerly direction, stopping at several other Polynesian islands, such as Tahiti, to gather data on local plumbing practices.

During the voyage the two will repeatedly fill and drain the yacht's hot tub to obtain reliable control data in both hemispheres. "This is the most crucial part of the entire endeavor," said Von Trappe. "If we encounter unusually rough weather, the whole project could be, pardon the expression, down the tube."

"We expect this to be a difficult and arduous expedition," said Handle, "but one that is well worth doing. We hope to return with profound new insights for Gallaudet's flushing capabilities, and with unusually complete suntans."

## 1st AAS degree in TV game shows will be inaugurated this fall at SPS

Beginning this fall, Gallaudet's School for Preparation of the Sighted will offer the AAS degree in TV game shows. The program is one of 6044 offered by the National Association of Residential Body.

President Jerry C. Lee was re-elected to a four-year term on the Commission of the National Association of Presidents of Colleges and Universities. A new NSF grant will link campus to Mars, Jupiter.

Math teachers learn to add, subtract at new Gallaudet Summer Institute. Thirty mathematics teachers of pre-college hearing impaired students recently completed the Gallaudet Summer Institute in Mathematics and Science. The institute was rescheduled from morning and afternoon sessions to morning sessions only, leaving the afternoon sessions open for other activities.

OTP looks back at some of the more important stories published in the past year.

## OTP reveals true fax about Galidet

The newly constituted Editorially Boring Group has been discussing the need to develop and disseminate a Gallaudet "Basic Facts Document" which anyone writing about the University could use as a reference.

Until the official fact sheet is sanitized and distributed, *Off the Point* offers the following list of key facts and figures:

<b>Eighth and Florida Avenues</b>	
<b>Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet's</b>	
<b>Lincoln</b>	<b>1857</b>
<b>Alice</b>	<b>DC</b>
<b>Ely</b>	
<b>TDD</b>	
<b>EMG</b>	
<b>deaf</b>	<b>October '86</b>
<b>GUA</b>	<b>US Congress</b>
<b>Bison</b>	<b>220</b>
<b>Fowler</b>	<b>PCD</b>
<b>Pre-College</b>	<b>400</b>
<b>\$8,201.48.07</b>	<b>this semester</b>
<b>simultaneous communication</b>	

Please note that when properly arranged, Gallaudet facts form the institution's logo.

In an aside, the committee noted that the following data are not considered official Gallaudet facts:

- faculty quorums
- fifth president
- Deaf Mute College
- staff unions
- per student costs



Jed Weinerschnitzel and Spike Kapike demonstrate the proposed new low-cost relay system for campus deaf people. The system will require participants to learn the semaphore flag signalling system that is used by the United States Navy and the Coast Guard.

## Auction items will go fast to savvy bidders

The third charity auction sponsored by the Society of Hapless Administrative People (SOHAP), to be held April 4, will feature a variety of items up for bid.

Tan Petticoat, auction coordinator, reports that among the fascinating items to go on the block will be a week's worth of guaranteed parking on campus, furniture from the tastefully appointed snack bar, a sumptuous candlelight dinner for two in the newly decorated Red Room of the campus cafeteria and a guided tour of Gallaudet's historic hideaways, including the Business Office and the Tutorial Center.

Also to be auctioned will be a free photograph taken of the winning bidder standing by the statue of Thomas Gallaudet and Alice, and a slightly used jacuzzi.